

COALITION OF CONNECTICUT SPORTSMEN

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Testimony presented to the Public Safety and Security Committee

by Robert T. Crook, Director

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IN OPPOSITION to S.B. No. 1071 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND.

It is inconceivable that this bill would be on the Agenda when several gun companies may well be evaluating leaving the state. "Gun Valley" the state's major heritage may be coming to an end.

CT Gun manufacturers have NO relevance to the Sandy Hook incident yet they are going to be penalized though a new license, read tax @\$2,500, and forced to pay a \$10 tax on each firearm manufactured or imported into the state. This \$10 tax will also affect Federal Firearms License retailers who will pass on the fee to consumers.

Should an "Assault Weapon" bill pass, the CEO of a CT manufacturing firm making these firearms could sell out of state but could not buy one himself.

The economic impact is substantial: a total of 7,340 jobs (direct, supplier, induced) could be affected; Wages for workers amount to \$522,028, 877; and the total economic impact is 1,753,880,300. Total CT State taxes \$119, 065,500. (NSSF data).

The Gov has stated he wants the gun companies to stay but wants his gun bills regardless. This statement along with the new taxes does not bode well for CT. Millions are allocated to start up companies while established companies are punished?

We recognize the value of the Victims Compensation Fund, but not to the extent that we dig ourselves deeper in the deficit hole.

We urge immediate rejection.